



Photos by Airman 1st Class James A. May III



Left, Staff Sgt. Robert Yates, 99th Transportation Squadron annotates aircraft arrival and departures on the aircraft status board. Above, ground crew members unload an aircraft here recently. The air terminal handled 18,000 passengers, 4,100 tons of cargo and 914 aircraft last year.

Air Terminal named best in ACC for third year

By Tech. Sgt. Charles Ramey
AWFC Public Affairs

For the third consecutive year, the 99th Transportation Squadron's air terminal is the best in Air Combat Command.

"With 10 assigned active-duty personnel and two reservists, we loaded 4,100 tons of cargo and 18,000 passengers on 914 aircraft without a single delay," said 2nd Lt. Kristie Cudd, 99th Transportation Squadron Combat Readiness Flight Commander. "This award is a great testament to the professionalism and dedication of the personnel assigned to this flight."

The air terminal provided movement of 141 medical personnel in support of the Air Force's largest medical exercise; directed passenger and baggage operations for 120 distinguished visitors during CAPSTONE '99, a live firepower demonstration for newly selected flag officers; and supported the Drug Enforcement Agency's movement of \$750,000 of seized contraband.

They also processed and loaded more than 1,300 tons of cargo and 5,447 passengers on 246 aircraft for Red Flag with zero delays. They moved 100 tons of cargo and 223 passengers on 10 aircraft enabling numerous hassle free deployments for the 66th Rescue Squadron in support of Operation Northern Watch.

Air terminal personnel were also credited with playing a vital role for 11th and 15th Reconnaissance Squadrons' deployments in support of Operations Joint Forge, Allied Force, and Desert Fox.

The unit also used their knowledge of airlift preparation, aircraft characteristics and dimensions, and safety to ensure the Thunderbirds' 54 tons of support equipment was ready to deploy for their annual airshow season.

"Managing the biggest and busiest multi-terminal operation in ACC is a challenge," said Mr. Craig Kokkeler, 99th Transportation Squadron Chief of Combat Readiness and Resources.

"Our personnel are involved with all facets of intermodal transportation: commercial and military air, surface, rail, and sea. We pride ourselves on providing the very best customer service possible."

As a result of their efforts, the unit also received the 1999 Headquarters ACC Unit Compliance Inspection Superior Team Performance Award.

"The title of 'Best in ACC' is a superb recognition for an outstanding group of professionals, and it demonstrates the epitome of teamwork – a lot of coordination, coupled with hard work, goes into ensuring this consistent success," said Maj. Aimee Corning, 99th Transportation Squadron commander.

"Whether they are supporting Red Horse, Red Flag, or Army Special Forces, this flight excels at knowledgeable, efficient customer support," said Maj. Corning. "There are a lot of 'behind the scenes' transporters in other flights who also supported this effort – the entire squadron deserves to be proud of this title."



Top, Senior Airman Mike Valdez, 99th Transportation Squadron taxis a cargo loader on the runway. Below, Tech. Sgt. Dwayne Battie, 99th TRANS checks the local area network connections during a routine maintenance check.

